

HOUSE BILL No. 1183

DIGEST OF HB1183 (Updated March 1, 1999 12:36 pm - DI 98)

Citations Affected: IC 5-2; IC 34-24; IC 35-38; IC 35-41; IC 35-46; IC 35-50; noncode.

Synopsis: Hate crimes. Requires law enforcement officers to receive training in identifying, responding to, and reporting bias crimes. Requires law enforcement agencies to collect and report information concerning bias crimes. Requires the Indiana central repository for criminal history information to submit a compiled report of this information to each law enforcement agency. Allows a person that suffers a pecuniary loss as a result of the commission of a bias crime to bring a civil action to recover actual, consequential, and incidental damages. Defines a bias crime as an offense in which the person who committed the offense knowingly or intentionally selected the person injured or damaged or otherwise affected property because of the color,
(Continued next page)

Effective: July 1, 1999.

**Crawford, Brown C, Hasler, Porter,
Adams T, Harris, Day, Dickinson,
Summers, Smith V, Pelath**

January 6, 1999, read first time and referred to Committee on Courts and Criminal Code.
March 1, 1999, reported — Do Pass.

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creed, disability, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or sex of the injured person or of the owner or occupant of the affected property. Makes commission of a bias crime an aggravating circumstance that may be considered by a judge when the judge imposes a sentence for the crime. Expands the scope of the offenses relating to civil rights to include violations directed at a person because of the person's sexual orientation.

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March 2, 1999

First Regular Session 111th General Assembly (1999)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 1998 General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1183

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning criminal law and procedure.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 5-2-1-9 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
2 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: Sec. 9. (a) The board shall adopt in
3 accordance with IC 4-22-2 all necessary rules to carry out the
4 provisions of this chapter. Such rules, which shall be adopted only after
5 necessary and proper investigation and inquiry by the board, shall
6 include the establishment of the following:
7 (1) Minimum standards of physical, educational, mental, and
8 moral fitness which shall govern the acceptance of any person for
9 training by any law enforcement training school or academy
10 meeting or exceeding the minimum standards established
11 pursuant to this chapter.
12 (2) Minimum standards for law enforcement training schools
13 administered by towns, cities, counties, the northwest Indiana law
14 enforcement training center, agencies, or departments of the state.
15 (3) Minimum standards for courses of study, attendance

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requirements, equipment, and facilities for approved town, city, county, and state law enforcement officer, police reserve officer, and conservation reserve officer training schools.

(4) Minimum qualifications for instructors at approved law enforcement training schools.

(5) Minimum basic training requirements which law enforcement officers appointed to probationary terms shall complete before being eligible for continued or permanent employment.

(6) Minimum basic training requirements which law enforcement officers not appointed for probationary terms but appointed on other than a permanent basis shall complete in order to be eligible for continued employment or permanent appointment.

(7) Minimum basic training requirements which law enforcement officers appointed on a permanent basis shall complete in order to be eligible for continued employment.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (l), a law enforcement officer appointed after July 5, 1972, and before July 1, 1993, may not enforce the laws or ordinances of the state or any political subdivision unless the officer has, within one (1) year from the date of appointment, successfully completed the minimum basic training requirements established under this chapter by the board. If a person fails to successfully complete the basic training requirements within one (1) year from the date of employment, the officer may not perform any of the duties of a law enforcement officer involving control or direction of members of the public or exercising the power of arrest until the officer has successfully completed the training requirements. This subsection does not apply to any law enforcement officer appointed before July 6, 1972, or after June 30, 1993.

(c) Military leave or other authorized leave of absence from law enforcement duty during the first year of employment after July 6, 1972, shall toll the running of the first year, which in such cases shall be calculated by the aggregate of the time before and after the leave, for the purposes of this chapter.

(d) Except as provided in subsections (e) and (l), a law enforcement officer appointed to a law enforcement department or agency after June 30, 1993, may not:

- (1) make an arrest;
- (2) conduct a search or a seizure of a person or property; or
- (3) carry a firearm;

unless the law enforcement officer successfully completes, at a board certified law enforcement academy or at the northwest Indiana law enforcement training center under section 15.2 of this chapter, the basic



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1 training requirements established by the board under this chapter.

2 (e) Before a law enforcement officer appointed after June 30, 1993,
3 completes the basic training requirements, the law enforcement officer
4 may exercise the police powers described in subsection (d) if the
5 officer successfully completes the pre-basic course established in
6 subsection (f). Successful completion of the pre-basic course authorizes
7 a law enforcement officer to exercise the police powers described in
8 subsection (d) for one (1) year after the date the law enforcement
9 officer is appointed.

10 (f) The board shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to establish a
11 pre-basic course for the purpose of training:

12 (1) law enforcement officers;

13 (2) police reserve officers (as described in IC 36-8-3-20); and

14 (3) conservation reserve officers (as described in IC 14-9-8-27);

15 regarding the subjects of arrest, search and seizure, use of force, and
16 firearm qualification. The pre-basic course must be offered on a
17 periodic basis throughout the year at regional sites statewide. The
18 pre-basic course must consist of forty (40) hours of course work. The
19 board may prepare a pre-basic course on videotape that must be used
20 in conjunction with live instruction. The board shall provide the course
21 material, the instructors, and the facilities at the regional sites
22 throughout the state that are used for the pre-basic course. In addition,
23 the board may certify pre-basic courses that may be conducted by other
24 public or private training entities, including colleges and universities.

25 (g) The board shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to establish a
26 mandatory inservice training program for police officers. After June 30,
27 1993, a law enforcement officer who has satisfactorily completed the
28 basic training and has been appointed to a law enforcement department
29 or agency on either a full-time or part-time basis is not eligible for
30 continued employment unless the officer satisfactorily completes a
31 minimum of sixteen (16) hours each year of inservice training in any
32 subject area included in the law enforcement academy's basic training
33 course or other job related subjects that are approved by the board as
34 determined by the law enforcement department's or agency's needs. In
35 addition, a certified academy staff may develop and make available
36 inservice training programs on a regional or local basis. The board may
37 approve courses offered by other public or private training entities,
38 including colleges and universities, as necessary in order to ensure the
39 availability of an adequate number of inservice training programs. The
40 board may waive an officer's inservice training requirements if the
41 board determines that the officer's reason for lacking the required
42 amount of inservice training hours is due to any of the following:



(1) An emergency situation.

(2) The unavailability of courses.

(h) The board shall also adopt rules establishing a town marshal basic training program, subject to the following:

(1) The program must require fewer hours of instruction and class attendance and fewer courses of study than are required for the mandated basic training program.

(2) Certain parts of the course materials may be studied by a candidate at the candidate's home in order to fulfill requirements of the program.

(3) Law enforcement officers successfully completing the requirements of the program are eligible for appointment only in towns employing the town marshal system (IC 36-5-7) and having no more than one (1) marshal and two (2) deputies.

(4) The limitation imposed by subdivision (3) does not apply to an officer who has successfully completed the mandated basic training program.

(5) The time limitations imposed by subsections (b) and (c) for completing the training are also applicable to the town marshal basic training program.

(i) The board shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to establish a police chief executive training program. The program must include training in the following areas:

(1) Liability.

(2) Media relations.

(3) Accounting and administration.

(4) Discipline.

(5) Department policy making.

(6) Firearm policies.

(7) Department programs.

(j) A police chief shall apply for admission to the police chief executive training program within two (2) months of the date the police chief initially takes office. A police chief must successfully complete the police chief executive training program within six (6) months of the date the police chief initially takes office. However, if space in the program is not available at a time that will allow the police chief to complete the program within six (6) months of the date the police chief initially takes office, the police chief must successfully complete the next available program that is offered to the police chief after the police chief initially takes office.

(k) A police chief who fails to comply with subsection (j) may not serve as the police chief until the police chief has completed the police

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chief executive training program. For the purposes of this subsection and subsection (j), "police chief" refers to:

- (1) the police chief of any city; and
- (2) the police chief of any town having a metropolitan police department.

A town marshal is not considered to be a police chief for these purposes, but a town marshal may enroll in the police chief executive training program.

(l) An investigator in the arson division of the office of the state fire marshal appointed:

- (1) before January 1, 1994, is not required; or
- (2) after December 31, 1993, is required;

to comply with the basic training standards established under this section.

(m) This subsection applies to the following:

- (1) Minimum basic training program required under subsection (d).**
- (2) Mandatory inservice training program required under subsection (g).**
- (3) Town marshal basic training program required under subsection (h).**
- (4) Police chief executive training program required under subsection (k).**
- (5) Any other training program for which the board adopts standards.**

After December 31, 1999, the standards adopted by the board for each program described in this subsection must include requirements for mandatory training in identifying, responding to, and reporting bias crimes (as defined in IC 35-41-1-3.5).

SECTION 2. IC 5-2-5-14 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: **Sec. 14. (a) A law enforcement agency shall collect information concerning bias crimes (as defined in IC 35-41-1-3.5).**

(b) At least two (2) times each year, a law enforcement agency shall submit information collected under subsection (a) to the Indiana central repository for criminal history information.

(c) At least one (1) time each year, the Indiana central repository for criminal history information shall submit a report that includes a compilation of information obtained under subsection (b) to each law enforcement agency.

(d) Information collected, submitted, and reported under this section must be consistent with guidelines established for the



1 acquisition, preservation, and exchange of identification records
2 and information by:

3 (1) the Attorney General of the United States; or

4 (2) the Federal Bureau of Investigation under 28 U.S.C. 534.

5 SECTION 3. IC 34-24-5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS
6 A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
7 1, 1999]:

8 **Chapter 5. Civil Action for Victims of Bias Crime**

9 **Sec. 1. This chapter applies only to a cause of action that accrues**
10 **after June 30, 1999.**

11 **Sec. 2. If a person suffers a pecuniary loss because of the**
12 **commission of a bias crime (as defined in IC 35-41-1-3.5) by**
13 **another person, the person may bring a civil action against the**
14 **person who caused the loss.**

15 **Sec. 3. In an action brought under section 2 of this chapter, the**
16 **plaintiff may seek to recover the following:**

17 (1) Actual, consequential, and incidental damages.

18 (2) The costs of the action.

19 (3) Reasonable attorney's fees.

20 **Sec. 4. A person may not recover damages under IC 34-24-3 and**
21 **this chapter for the same offense.**

22 SECTION 4. IC 35-38-1-7.1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
23 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: Sec. 7.1. (a) In determining
24 what sentence to impose for a crime, the court shall consider:

25 (1) the risk that the person will commit another crime;

26 (2) the nature and circumstances of the crime committed;

27 (3) the person's:

28 (A) prior criminal record;

29 (B) character; and

30 (C) condition;

31 (4) whether the victim of the crime was less than twelve (12)
32 years of age or at least sixty-five (65) years of age;

33 (5) whether the person violated a protective order issued against
34 the person under IC 31-15 or IC 31-16 (or IC 31-1-11.5 before its
35 repeal) or IC 34-26-2 (or IC 34-4-5.1 before its repeal); and

36 (6) any oral or written statement made by a victim of the crime.

37 (b) The court may consider the following factors as aggravating
38 circumstances or as favoring imposing consecutive terms of
39 imprisonment:

40 (1) The person has recently violated the conditions of any
41 probation, parole, or pardon granted to the person.

42 (2) The person has a history of criminal or delinquent activity.



(3) The person is in need of correctional or rehabilitative treatment that can best be provided by commitment of the person to a penal facility.

(4) Imposition of a reduced sentence or suspension of the sentence and imposition of probation would depreciate the seriousness of the crime.

(5) The victim of the crime was less than twelve (12) years of age or at least sixty-five (65) years of age.

(6) The victim of the crime was mentally or physically infirm.

(7) The person committed a forcible felony while wearing a garment designed to resist the penetration of a bullet.

(8) The person committed a sex crime listed in subsection (e) and:

(A) the crime created an epidemiologically demonstrated risk of transmission of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and involved the sex organ of one (1) person and the mouth, anus, or sex organ of another person;

(B) the person had knowledge that the person was a carrier of HIV; and

(C) the person had received risk counseling as described in subsection (g).

(9) The person committed an offense related to controlled substances listed in subsection (f) if:

(A) the offense involved:

(i) the delivery by any person to another person; or

(ii) the use by any person on another person;

of a contaminated sharp (as defined in IC 16-41-16-2) or other paraphernalia that creates an epidemiologically demonstrated risk of transmission of HIV by involving percutaneous contact;

(B) the person had knowledge that the person was a carrier of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV); and

(C) the person had received risk counseling as described in subsection (g).

(10) The person committed the offense in an area of a consolidated or second class city that is designated as a public safety improvement area by the Indiana criminal justice institute under IC 36-8-19.5.

(11) The injury to or death of the victim of the crime was the result of shaken baby syndrome (as defined in IC 16-41-40-2).

(12) Before the commission of the crime, the person administered to the victim of the crime, without the victim's knowledge, a sedating drug or a drug that had a hypnotic effect on the victim, or the person had knowledge that such a drug had been

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administered to the victim without the victim's knowledge.

(13) The offense was a bias crime.

(c) The court may consider the following factors as mitigating circumstances or as favoring suspending the sentence and imposing probation:

(1) The crime neither caused nor threatened serious harm to persons or property, or the person did not contemplate that it would do so.

(2) The crime was the result of circumstances unlikely to recur.

(3) The victim of the crime induced or facilitated the offense.

(4) There are substantial grounds tending to excuse or justify the crime, though failing to establish a defense.

(5) The person acted under strong provocation.

(6) The person has no history of delinquency or criminal activity, or the person has led a law-abiding life for a substantial period before commission of the crime.

(7) The person is likely to respond affirmatively to probation or short term imprisonment.

(8) The character and attitudes of the person indicate that the person is unlikely to commit another crime.

(9) The person has made or will make restitution to the victim of the crime for the injury, damage, or loss sustained.

(10) Imprisonment of the person will result in undue hardship to the person or the dependents of the person.

(11) The person was convicted of a crime involving the use of force against a person who had repeatedly inflicted physical or sexual abuse upon the convicted person and evidence shows that the convicted person suffered from the effects of battery as a result of the past course of conduct of the individual who is the victim of the crime for which the person was convicted.

(d) The criteria listed in subsections (b) and (c) do not limit the matters that the court may consider in determining the sentence.

(e) For the purposes of this article, the following crimes are considered sex crimes:

(1) Rape (IC 35-42-4-1).

(2) Criminal deviate conduct (IC 35-42-4-2).

(3) Child molesting (IC 35-42-4-3).

(4) Child seduction (IC 35-42-4-7).

(5) Prostitution (IC 35-45-4-2).

(6) Patronizing a prostitute (IC 35-45-4-3).

(7) Incest (IC 35-46-1-3).

(8) Sexual misconduct with a minor under IC 35-42-4-9(a).



(f) For the purposes of this article, the following crimes are considered offenses related to controlled substances:

- (1) Dealing in cocaine or a narcotic drug (IC 35-48-4-1).
- (2) Dealing in a schedule I, II, or III controlled substance (IC 35-48-4-2).
- (3) Dealing in a schedule IV controlled substance (IC 35-48-4-3).
- (4) Dealing in a schedule V controlled substance (IC 35-48-4-4).
- (5) Possession of cocaine or a narcotic drug (IC 35-48-4-6).
- (6) Possession of a controlled substance (IC 35-48-4-7).
- (7) Dealing in paraphernalia (IC 35-48-4-8.5).
- (8) Possession of paraphernalia (IC 35-48-4-8.3).
- (9) Offenses relating to registration (IC 35-48-4-14).

(g) For the purposes of this section, a person received risk counseling if the person had been:

- (1) notified in person or in writing that tests have confirmed the presence of antibodies to the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) in the person's blood; and
- (2) warned of the behavior that can transmit HIV.

SECTION 5. IC 35-41-1-3.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: **Sec. 3.5. "Bias crime", for purposes of IC 34-24-5, means an offense in which the person who committed the offense knowingly or intentionally:**

- (1) selected the person who was injured; or**
- (2) damaged or otherwise affected property;**

by the offense because of the color, creed, disability, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or sex of the injured person or of the owner or occupant of the affected property.

SECTION 6. IC 35-46-2-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: Sec. 1. A person who knowingly or intentionally denies to another person, because of color, creed, disability, national origin, race, religion, **sexual orientation**, or sex, the full and equal use of the services, facilities, or goods in:

- (1) an establishment that caters or offers its services, facilities, or goods to the general public; or
- (2) a housing project owned or subsidized by a governmental entity;

commits a civil rights violation, a Class B misdemeanor.

SECTION 7. IC 35-46-2-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: Sec. 2. A public servant having the duty to select or summon persons for grand jury or trial jury service who knowingly or intentionally fails to select or summon a



1 person because of color, creed, disability, national origin, race, religion,
 2 **sexual orientation**, or sex commits discrimination in jury selection, a
 3 Class A misdemeanor.

4 SECTION 8. IC 35-50-2-9 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 5 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: Sec. 9. (a) The state may
 6 seek either a death sentence or a sentence of life imprisonment without
 7 parole for murder by alleging, on a page separate from the rest of the
 8 charging instrument, the existence of at least one (1) of the aggravating
 9 circumstances listed in subsection (b). In the sentencing hearing after
 10 a person is convicted of murder, the state must prove beyond a
 11 reasonable doubt the existence of at least one (1) of the aggravating
 12 circumstances alleged. However, the state may not proceed against a
 13 defendant under this section if a court determines at a pretrial hearing
 14 under IC 35-36-9 that the defendant is a mentally retarded individual.

15 (b) The aggravating circumstances are as follows:

16 (1) The defendant committed the murder by intentionally killing
 17 the victim while committing or attempting to commit any of the
 18 following:

19 (A) Arson (IC 35-43-1-1).

20 (B) Burglary (IC 35-43-2-1).

21 (C) Child molesting (IC 35-42-4-3).

22 (D) Criminal deviate conduct (IC 35-42-4-2).

23 (E) Kidnapping (IC 35-42-3-2).

24 (F) Rape (IC 35-42-4-1).

25 (G) Robbery (IC 35-42-5-1).

26 (H) Carjacking (IC 35-42-5-2).

27 (I) Criminal gang activity (IC 35-45-9-3).

28 (J) Dealing in cocaine or a narcotic drug (IC 35-48-4-1).

29 (2) The defendant committed the murder by the unlawful
 30 detonation of an explosive with intent to injure person or damage
 31 property.

32 (3) The defendant committed the murder by lying in wait.

33 (4) The defendant who committed the murder was hired to kill.

34 (5) The defendant committed the murder by hiring another person
 35 to kill.

36 (6) The victim of the murder was a corrections employee,
 37 probation officer, parole officer, community corrections worker,
 38 home detention officer, fireman, judge, or law enforcement
 39 officer, and either:

40 (A) the victim was acting in the course of duty; or

41 (B) the murder was motivated by an act the victim performed
 42 while acting in the course of duty.



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(7) The defendant has been convicted of another murder.

(8) The defendant has committed another murder, at any time, regardless of whether the defendant has been convicted of that other murder.

(9) The defendant was:

(A) under the custody of the department of correction;

(B) under the custody of a county sheriff;

(C) on probation after receiving a sentence for the commission of a felony; or

(D) on parole;

at the time the murder was committed.

(10) The defendant dismembered the victim.

(11) The defendant burned, mutilated, or tortured the victim while the victim was alive.

(12) The victim of the murder was less than twelve (12) years of age.

(13) The victim was a victim of any of the following offenses for which the defendant was convicted:

(A) Battery as a Class D felony or as a Class C felony under IC 35-42-2-1.

(B) Kidnapping (IC 35-42-3-2).

(C) Criminal confinement (IC 35-42-3-3).

(D) A sex crime under IC 35-42-4.

(14) The victim of the murder was listed by the state or known by the defendant to be a witness against the defendant and the defendant committed the murder with the intent to prevent the person from testifying.

(15) The defendant committed the murder by intentionally discharging a firearm (as defined in IC 35-47-1-5):

(A) into an inhabited dwelling; or

(B) from a vehicle.

(16) The victim of the murder was pregnant and the murder resulted in the intentional killing of a fetus that has attained viability (as defined in IC 16-18-2-365).

(17) The offense was a bias crime.

(c) The mitigating circumstances that may be considered under this section are as follows:

(1) The defendant has no significant history of prior criminal conduct.

(2) The defendant was under the influence of extreme mental or emotional disturbance when the murder was committed.

(3) The victim was a participant in or consented to the defendant's



- 1 conduct.
- 2 (4) The defendant was an accomplice in a murder committed by
- 3 another person, and the defendant's participation was relatively
- 4 minor.
- 5 (5) The defendant acted under the substantial domination of
- 6 another person.
- 7 (6) The defendant's capacity to appreciate the criminality of the
- 8 defendant's conduct or to conform that conduct to the
- 9 requirements of law was substantially impaired as a result of
- 10 mental disease or defect or of intoxication.
- 11 (7) The defendant was less than eighteen (18) years of age at the
- 12 time the murder was committed.
- 13 (8) Any other circumstances appropriate for consideration.
- 14 (d) If the defendant was convicted of murder in a jury trial, the jury
- 15 shall reconvene for the sentencing hearing. If the trial was to the court,
- 16 or the judgment was entered on a guilty plea, the court alone shall
- 17 conduct the sentencing hearing. The jury or the court may consider all
- 18 the evidence introduced at the trial stage of the proceedings, together
- 19 with new evidence presented at the sentencing hearing. The court shall
- 20 instruct the jury concerning the statutory penalties for murder and any
- 21 other offenses for which the defendant was convicted, the potential for
- 22 consecutive or concurrent sentencing, and the availability of good time
- 23 credit and clemency. The defendant may present any additional
- 24 evidence relevant to:
- 25 (1) the aggravating circumstances alleged; or
- 26 (2) any of the mitigating circumstances listed in subsection (c).
- 27 (e) Except as provided by IC 35-36-9, if the hearing is by jury, the
- 28 jury shall recommend to the court whether the death penalty or life
- 29 imprisonment without parole, or neither, should be imposed. The jury
- 30 may recommend:
- 31 (1) the death penalty; or
- 32 (2) life imprisonment without parole;
- 33 only if it makes the findings described in subsection (k). The court shall
- 34 make the final determination of the sentence, after considering the
- 35 jury's recommendation, and the sentence shall be based on the same
- 36 standards that the jury was required to consider. The court is not bound
- 37 by the jury's recommendation. In making the final determination of the
- 38 sentence after receiving the jury's recommendation, the court may
- 39 receive evidence of the crime's impact on members of the victim's
- 40 family.
- 41 (f) If a jury is unable to agree on a sentence recommendation after
- 42 reasonable deliberations, the court shall discharge the jury and proceed

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as if the hearing had been to the court alone.

(g) If the hearing is to the court alone, except as provided by IC 35-36-9, the court shall:

(1) sentence the defendant to death; or

(2) impose a term of life imprisonment without parole; only if it makes the findings described in subsection (k).

(h) If a court sentences a defendant to death, the court shall order the defendant's execution to be carried out not later than one (1) year and one (1) day after the date the defendant was convicted. The supreme court has exclusive jurisdiction to stay the execution of a death sentence. If the supreme court stays the execution of a death sentence, the supreme court shall order a new date for the defendant's execution.

(i) If a person sentenced to death by a court files a petition for post-conviction relief, the court, not later than ninety (90) days after the date the petition is filed, shall set a date to hold a hearing to consider the petition. If a court does not, within the ninety (90) day period, set the date to hold the hearing to consider the petition, the court's failure to set the hearing date is not a basis for additional post-conviction relief. The attorney general shall answer the petition for post-conviction relief on behalf of the state. At the request of the attorney general, a prosecuting attorney shall assist the attorney general. The court shall enter written findings of fact and conclusions of law concerning the petition not later than ninety (90) days after the date the hearing concludes. However, if the court determines that the petition is without merit, the court may dismiss the petition within ninety (90) days without conducting a hearing under this subsection.

(j) A death sentence is subject to automatic review by the supreme court. The review, which shall be heard under rules adopted by the supreme court, shall be given priority over all other cases. The supreme court's review must take into consideration all claims that the:

(1) conviction or sentence was in violation of the:

(A) Constitution of the State of Indiana; or

(B) Constitution of the United States;

(2) sentencing court was without jurisdiction to impose a sentence; and

(3) sentence:

(A) exceeds the maximum sentence authorized by law; or

(B) is otherwise erroneous.

If the supreme court cannot complete its review by the date set by the sentencing court for the defendant's execution under subsection (h), the supreme court shall stay the execution of the death sentence and set a

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1 new date to carry out the defendant's execution.

2 (k) Before a sentence may be imposed under this section, the jury,
3 in a proceeding under subsection (e), or the court, in a proceeding
4 under subsection (g), must find that:

5 (1) the state has proved beyond a reasonable doubt that at least
6 one (1) of the aggravating circumstances listed in subsection (b)
7 exists; and

8 (2) any mitigating circumstances that exist are outweighed by the
9 aggravating circumstance or circumstances.

10 **SECTION 9. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999] IC 35-38-1-7.1,**
11 **IC 35-46-2-1, IC 35-46-2-2, and IC 35-50-2-9, all as amended by**
12 **this act, and IC 34-24-5 and IC 35-41-1-3.5, both as added by this**
13 **act, apply only to offenses committed and civil actions accruing**
14 **after June 30, 1999.**

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